Lima, Melissa

Period: 5

10/14/13

AP English Language

The Crucible: Anticipation/Reaction Guide

4. There is only one correct way to interpret the Bible.

There are many ways one can interpret the Bible. There are several translations of the Bible although the meaning should still be the same in the various translations, each of these translations has its own flaws and because of that each one will provide different views. A simple mistranslation of a single word can change the entire meaning of a text. With all the translations out there two people could read different translations and could get way two different things out of it. So if you are going to think that there is only one way to view things you would have to think there is only one way to read it, and to insure you are getting the proper translation you would then need to check with yourself because another person might think differently. Due to the fact that the views of one person are dissimilar from the views of another, there is not only one correct way to interpret the Bible. Similar to many other literary works, more than one passage in the Bible has multiple meanings. The passage might read one thing but the message it is trying to get across may come across as something vastly different. The worst thing anyone can make is to believe that only his or her interpretation is the only one that is valid. This is known as ignorance towards the passages that contradict their particular view on the rest. No one can say what is right or wrong because the Bible is one of those things that cannot be proven or disproven. The text has been rewritten several times so one basically has to simply have faith and go with what they believe is right. One cannot change the words of the Bible nor twist them to hurt others. Not only does the Bible contain different meanings behind it, but also the way others interpret it differs depending on the situations they are in at the time. The Bible can apply to others in ways to guide them and help them with what they are going through, no matter how many times a person reads the Bible there are many things they can receive from it. Those who oppose the Bible will interpret it in a negative way, using negative comments towards it and a pessimistic attitude when thinking about it as well. Others who support the Bible will read it and find love, hope, guidance and all that they can optimistically interpret from it. All in all, there are not just one, but a million ways one can interpret the Bible, it all relies on their view towards it and the message they receive from it.